



Col. *Don Francisco's*

LETTER of ADVICE

TO THE

Votaries of *VENUS*.



THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

Col. Don Francisco

Letter of Address

TO THE

VOLUME OF THE

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

Col. *Don Francisco's*

LETTER of ADVICE

T O A L L

His *BELOVED* *BRETREN*,

T H E

Votaries of *VENUS*.

*Proceed, be bold ; and scorning to intreat,
Think all her Strugglings feign'd, her Cries
Deceit ;*

*Not creeping like a Cur that fawns to please,
Nor whine, nor beg, but like a Lion seize.*

LANSDOWN.

L O N D O N ;

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Col. Don Francisco

LETTER OF ADVICE

His Blood Hath

Votaries of FENUS.

[illegible]

W O D O L

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Printed for, and sold by the Booksellers

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Beloved of VENUS,



O U are all, I am satisfied, touched with my present Misfortunes, which even my Enemies allow, I bear with an inimitable Patience ; nor has my Conscience hitherto charged me with any Neglect of Duty to our renowned Patroness, nor even to *Jupiter*, the *Rape-Master-General* of *Olympus*, whose Vicegerent I am here acknowledged to be.

If indeed I have any concern, 'tis the Doubt of my Liberty to gain fresh Honours, in heading so illustrious a Society as you by all impartial Men are, allowed to be:
There-

Therefore since at present I cannot be personally with you, let these my Instructions, I conjure you, be engraved in your Hearts, that, maugre all the Scruples of conscientious Virgins, you may attain the same Honour I have.

First then, I shall begin with you in your tender Years, (that being the regular Way of Proceeding in Education) when I would advise you seriously and constantly to study your *Classicks*, the most eminent of which are *Picquet*, *Ombre*, *Billiards* and *Hazard*; which last I always look'd on as the most excellent; and therefore have, with a great deal of Pains and Industry, published a correct Edition thereof, with Notes far exceeding the *Dauphin's*. I would not have you set out on your Travels, till you are thoroughly acquainted with the abovesaid Books,

a competent Knowledge therein will be of considerable Advantage to you in the whole Course of your Peregrination in this lower Orb: Believe me, I speak sincerely, I had never made so considerable a Figure, had I not studied hard in my Minority. *Omnia vincit labor*, is an old approved Maxim among the Latinists; and Industry in every Profession is greatly commended by the *English*.

Having perfectly master'd your Books, your next Care will be the choice of Companions. We will suppose you by this Time arrived at Years of Discretion, and consequently desirous of that Conversation by which you'll most Profit. I would advise you at first to associate wholly with *Hibernians*; perhaps you will be surprized I give not my native Country the Preference; I assure you, *I cannot*
Speak

Speak against my Conscience, I ever hated my Countrymen, but not my Country; the latter, as becomes a dutiful Child, I always honoured and obeyed; but as to the former I never cou'd have any liking for them, as believing them to be spurious, or at least degenerate Wretches; for which reason we never lov'd as Brethren. As for the *Hibernians*, I ever found them Brave, Courageous and Enterprizing; Men, whom I venture to say, no fears of Ax or Halter ever dismay'd. *These*, my beloved Brethren, *These* were the Men I at first conversed with; *They* made me thoroughly acquainted with the abovesaid Classicks; *They* first introduced me into Great Company, who being *naturally dull*, admired my Knowledge in the said Books, and desired my Instructions in their study thereof, for which they

they very amply rewarded me; which, I may truly say, was the Foundation of my future Greatness. And here I must observe for your Edification, I always like a Politick Schoolmaster, kept them as backward as possible. A certain Nobleman of the highest Rank gave me the major Part of his Estate for one Copy of my Edition of *Hazard*, entirely upon the Recommendation of an *Hibernian*.

By this time, *my Beloved*, I persuade myself you are all of you convinced, I give these *Illustrious Men* no undeserved Praises. I have but one thing more to add concerning them, which will, even to the latest Posterity, redound to their truly immortal Honour; which was this: Being young and unexperienced, always desirous of studying abstruse Pieces, I was

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firmly resolved to peruse *Malebranche's Search after Truth*, had not one of 'em assured me I shou'd never profit thereby; at the same time recommending to me that learned and invaluable Piece, *Calippædia*; written originally by *Qui-lette*. I read it carefully, and wrote Annotations thereon, which I presented to the Perusal of a whole Society of *Hibernians*, who returned me their unanimous Thanks, and at the same time enjoined me not to publish them, assuring me the World was not worthy of them.

Having given you sufficient Caution as to your First Companions; upon leaving them I would advise you to be constant at all the most *celebrated Academies*, (called by the unthinking Part of Mankind, *Gaming-Houses*): And here I must intreat you earnestly, if you have
any

any regard for your *precious Pockets*, to inveigle yourselves into the Greatest Company ; by Greatest I mean those who are heaviest outwardly, and lightest inwardly ; and be sure you take all imaginable care they pry not too close into your Knowledge, which may be of infinite concern to you. But as you will have better Understanding hereof after you have diligently studied the aforesaid Books, I shall now proceed, *my Beloved*, to that Part of your Conduct relating to the Female Sex.

First then, I wou'd advise you all, as soon as you are arrived at Years of Maturity, (if you can stay so long) not to tread in the mistaken Steps of the majority of Mankind ; and herein I may say without *Vanity*, a Foible I never was addicted to, I have great experience.

As Example in every Action of Life has a prodigious Influence, I shall lay down, as occasion serves, the Methods I have taken to attain so much Renown in this Way. I had always a natural Aversion for *Flattery*, which I look'd upon below the Character of a *Hero*, therefore cou'd never consent to the antient manner of addressing the Female Sex: I look'd upon *Jupiter* not only as King of the Gods, but as a Deity far exceeding the other: I know there are some who lay their Incense intirely at *Mars's* Altar. Poor deluded Wretches! What Honour cou'd there be in putting an Ornament on the Brows of a *Blacksmith*? This was the Exploit it seems that has render'd his Name immortal. An Exploit well worthy indeed of Immortality!

On

On the other hand, *my Beloved*, let us view the Actions of *Immortal Jove* : Imagine with me you behold the *Celestial Rape-Master* transformed into a beautiful Bull ; view his Shape, his Horns, his Tail ; observe him skipping o'er the Meadows ; how am I transported even in the Narration ! see him him frisking before the beautiful *Europa* ; observe the trembling Maid, gently she lays her snowy Arms on his Neck, looks on him awhile with Admiration, approaches nearer still, strokes his Head, his Back, his Tail, at last ventures to mount, when in an Instant away the *Deity* conveys the frightened Maid : Oh Glorious Action ! how must our *Modern Lovers* be ashamed at this, who like *Hercules* convert their Arms to Distaffs, and at last frequently are deserted by the dissembling Maid.

Is

Is this consistent with Manhood ?
No, like *Jove* let us by Dint of
Strength bear of the Prize.

I shall not, *Beloved*, tire you
with a Multitude of Examples ;
the great one I have just now set
before you, will, I doubt not, a-
nimate you with Force sufficient
to render your Names immortal,
especially if you follow it as near-
ly as I have always done.

I shall give you but one more,
which almost equals the other,
which is that of his *Infernal Ma-
jesty*, and that *beautiful Goddess
Proserpine*. Vain would all my
Efforts be, *my Beloved*, to set this
Glorious Action in its just Lustre ;
whole Volumes have already been
published concerning it, and all of
them fall infinitely short of its just
Encomiums ; *Claudian*, I think,
far excels the rest ; perhaps the
censuring World may think I pay
him

him this Compliment merely upon the account of his continuing obstinate in the *Pagan Superstition*, I assure you, as great a *Pagan* as I am represented, 'tis not on that account ; I admire the *Poet*, not the *Principle* : His Vein of Poetry was undoubtedly born with him ; a pleasing Vivacity appears in his Imagination ; he seems to have a happy Heat of Fancy, accompanied with a sound Judgment : I could even grow wild in his Praises, therefore shall relate the Story as exact as my Memory will permit. *He* tells us that *Pluto* observing the *Cælestial Rape-Master* indulge himself in a continual Series of Pleasure, takes offence thereat, and sends *Mercury* with a Memorial, signifying his Resolution of Revenge if *Jupiter* comply'd not with his Requests, which were to suffer him to partake of those
Plea-

fures. The *Immortal Thunderer* assured his *Infernal Majesty* he not only comply'd therewith, but likewise propos'd a *Goddeſs*, if *his Majesty* thought fit to accept the Proffer, by Force of Arms. The *Infernal Deity* accepted the Proposal, and left the Event to *Jove*: That *Deity* knew full well that *Ceres* had a *beautiful Goddeſs* for her Daughter, that ſhe was the moſt *reſerved Goddeſs* in *Olympus*; to obtain his Ends therefore he muſt have Recourſe to Stratagem. In the interim ſubtle *Old Ceres* got ſome Notion of their Deſigns, and ſent *Miſs* to *Sicily*; but *Jupiter* got Intelligence thereof, and ſent Expreſſes to his Brother *Pluto* to acquaint him therewith; and that he had ſent *Pallas* and *Diana*, the *then weak Patroness of Virgins*, to pay her a Viſit, on whom he would lay his Injunctions to be ſub-

subservient to *his Majesty's* Designs. *Pluto*, overjoy'd at so generous an Offer, ordered his Chariot and Guards. In the interim, *Pallas* and *Diana* persuaded *Proserpine* to take a Walk out for a little Air, when his *Infernal Majesty* arose, and bore away the *Golden Prize*. *Jupiter* declares this *Rape* shou'd be very beneficial to Mankind, that *Ceres*, in search of her Daughter, should teach the Art of Tilling, while *Pluto* and *her Daughter* were learning the same in the Shades below.

These two Examples are surely, *my Beloved*, very enforcing; I have related them in the most *pathetick Manner* of Expression my Genius wou'd permit of.

I shall now give you a few particular Admonitions: I wou'd not have you, like *Mars*, stoop to so mean an Action, as *infringing on*
C
other's

other's Properties; I mean, if the *weaker Party* will permit it voluntarily: But if they oppose you strongly, give them a warm Reception, and, like a true Warrior, send in a full Charge, beat down their *Batteries*, seize and take Possession.

I hope by this you will not imagine I would have you make a constant Practice of such *Enterprises*: No, *my Beloved*, I exhort you earnestly, for the generality, to lay siege to Citadels that were never before besieged; 'tis there your Glory will be conspicuous.

I shall lay before you the Danger that frequently attends Exploits of this Nature. *Ixion* had long wandered upon Earth destitute of all Relief, when the *compassionate Jupiter* took his deplorable Condition into consideration. *He* thought it very hard for a *Deity*
(for

(for *Ixion* really was such) to wander about on Earth, destitute of all the celestial Comforts his *Brother Deities* enjoyed above: He knew if he had any Conversation, 'twas with *Terrestrial Inhabitants*, and consequently below the Dignity of the *Deity*: He knew the Hardship of his being obliged to drink earthly *Hog-wash* after He had been so long us'd to *Nectar*; I say my *Immortal Precedent* taking all the Miseries, poor *exiled Ixion* underwent, into Consideration, resolv'd to forgive the *oppressed Deity* all his past Offences, upon Condition of future Amendment. *Ixion* promised the *Immortal Thunderer* never to offend more; and was that Instant restored to all his former Possessions in the *Celestial Regions*. And now, my *Beloved*, observe the Event: That *Deity*, after having conversed so

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long

long with the Inhabitants of the lower Orb, could not, on his return to *Olympus*, lay aside the Vices he had learn'd of them. Believe me, I cannot relate the Sequel, without the highest Indignation. The Monster of Ingratitude had no sooner settled his Affairs, but he endeavour'd to perpetrate an Action that the *Inhabitants only* of *One Nation* upon Earth cou'd be guilty of ; for not content with his once more happy Station, he form'd a Design to reward his generous *Benefactor* with an Ornament, that few of the *Terrestrial Inhabitants* are adorned with, except *Those* of the *Nation* just mention'd ; nor did He intend to accomplish this his execrable Design by force, that wou'd have been somewhat excusable ; no, he was to have fawn'd, flatter'd and sooth'd *Madam* to a Compliance. But
now,

now, *Beloved*, observe the Issue. Her *Conscientious* Majesty acquainted her *Spouse* with the whole Matter. He, enraged at *Ixion's* return of Gratitude, order'd her to give him Encouragement; and when his Honour should think himself going to take Possession, he wou'd place a *Cloud* before him; which accordingly he did; and at that Instant whirled him down to his Brother *Pluto*, who, (if we may credit the Story) turned him immediately into a *Jack-Wheel*, for his *Infernal Majesty's* own Kitchen.

Above all things, *never enter the Backway of a Fort*; 'tis inconsistent with the Honour of a true Warrior; boldly attack the Front; if they sally out repel 'em, and enter immediately with Intrepidity. How many Forts have I myself attack'd? Forts that had stood many a Siege, and Forts
never

never besieged before. What Victories have I gained? Not *Alexander*, under the Banners of *Mars*, ever gained the Victories I have done under those of *Venus*: Yet, I confess sincerely, 'twas not so much owing to my own Merit as to the setting the Example of *Immortal Jove* ever before me; 'twas indeed *Veluti in Speculum*. Let the same *Speculum* ever lead you on to Glory; and may you at last meet with better Rewards, than I at present am likely to do.

I am not ignorant of the Calumnies and Falshoods raised against me, not only by *Garret Biographers*, but also by some from whom I expected better usage. A scurrilous one, among the former, has, with uncommon Impudence, taken the liberty to assert, that I have held a Con-
versation

verſation with a noted *Miraculous* *Perſon*: Now I do ſolemnly
 declare, upon the Word of an *Honeſt and Upright* Man, that
 the ſaid *Miraculous Perſon* was
 never once at my Houſe; nor
 did I ever ſee Him to my Know-
 ledge; therefore am as entirely
 ignorant of his *Perſon* as his
Doctrine, which I acknowledge
 infinitely above my Comprehen-
 ſion: Nor was my Inclination
 indeed ever prone to Subjects of
that Nature. However, *my Be-*
loved, I am ſenſible every *Good*
Man is liable to Slander and
 Obloquy; nor are the Great them-
 ſelves exempt: Therefore let me
 exhort you all to bear theſe Af-
 fronts whenever offer'd, with the
 ſame Magnanimity and Conſtancy
 that I have done.

I have but little more to add:
 I wou'd adviſe you all to keep a
 conſtant,